

## SCOTT WALKER

## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR STATE OF WISCONSIN

P.O. Box 7863 Madison, WI 53707

March 15, 2012

Madison Teachers Inc.

Attn: Peggy Coyne, John Matthews

821 Williamson Street Madison, WI 53703

**Green Bay Education Association** 

Attn: Toni Lardinois, Keith Patt

2256 Main Street

Green Bay, WI 54311

**Kenosha Education Association** 

Attn: Mary Modder, Joe Kiriaki

5610 55th Street

Kenosha, WI 53144

Racine Education Association

Attn: Pete Knotek, Jack Bernfeld

1201 West Blvd

Racine, WI 53405

Dear Union Leadership:

I was disappointed in your letter to the Milwaukee Teachers' Education Association (MTEA). Last week, MTEA and the Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS) system asked the Legislature for the ability to utilize budget tools to realize savings. In reaction to their decision you wrote, "Allowing Governor Walker to make such a claim (a victory of his policy) just before the election will prove detrimental to recalling him..."

Your use of Wisconsin school children and the livelihood of educators as political pawns is shameful and causes me to reaffirm my commitment to stand behind the decisions like the one made by Bob Peterson, president of the Milwaukee Teachers Education Association (MTEA). In this instance he is putting school children before politics and he should receive credit for standing up for what is right. That is why I intend to sign the legislation that will help MTEA and MPS put students first.

Not too long ago I spent eighteen months interviewing for the job of Governor. I pledged to put the power back in the hands of the people again. When you are ready to put the best interests of our students and of our hard-working taxpayers ahead of politics, I will be there with you. I will be there, just as I am with Milwaukee.

Sincerely,

Governor Scott Walker